irregularities in Mohan Nagar Karamchari Sahkari Avas Samiti Ltd., Mohan Nagar district Ghaziabad under the patronage of the concerned Government officials;

(c) if so, the action being taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) No connivance or patronage of the Government officials has been noted towards any tax evasion attempted by Mohan Nagar Karamchari Sahkari Avas Samiti Ltd.

In order to detect any tax related irregularities in the case of the above mentioned Samiti, assessment proceedings have already been initiated for assessment years 1990-91 to 2000-2001 and the scrutiny of the accounts are in progress. The assessment orders are to be passed within the Statutory time limit provided under the Income Tax Act, 1961, *i.e.* by 31.3.2003 in respect of assessment years 1990-91, 1994-95 to 2000-2001 and by 31.3.2004 in respect of assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94. In these assessment orders we will cover all aspects of possible tax evasion in this case.

Shortfall in Customs Receipts

1003. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the customs receipts shortfall of the budget estimates by Rs. 2035 crore and total duty forgone under export promotion schemes amounted to Rs. 18166 crore during 1999-2000;

(b) if so, what are the respective figures for the fiscal year 2000-2001;

(c) what are the reasons for such a heavy and constant percentage of shortfall *vis-a-vis* customs duty forgone; and

(d) what steps are being taken to avoid over estimates and curb duty loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The customs receipts shortfall of the budget estimates is by Rs. 2035* crore and total duty forgone under export promotion schemes amounted to Rs. 18166* crore during 1999-2000.

(b) The respective figures for the fiscal year 2000-2001 are Rs. 5952* (P) crore and Rs. 21658* (P) crore.

(c) The reduced growth in imports has affected the revenue. The reduction in duty on crude oil and petroleum products (*w.e.f.* 30.09.2000) and abolition of 10 percent surcharge on imports are also the factors affecting customs revenue during the fiscal year 2000-2001.

(d) All possible steps are being taken for better tax realization. These include plugging leakage of revenue on account of undervaluation or commercial frauds, expediting disposal of confiscated or uncleared cargo, expediting finalisation of provisional assessments, expediting pending adjudications and appeals, and simplification of administrations etc. procedures in order to increase tax compliance, etc.

Import of Coins

1004. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no mint in India where coins can be produced;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the coins are imported from foreign countries, if so, the details of such countries;

(c) the total number of coins likely to be imported during the

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* The figures are as per departmental records.
P = Provisional